

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 H-01  
CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-01 ICA-11 MCE-00 ACDA-12  
OMB-01 SIG-03 /082 R

DRAFTED BY:EA:PHL:KWBLEAKLEY

APPROVED BY:EA:RBOAKLEY

EA:PHL:JCMONJO

EA:TMBM:MMEASTON

DOD:ISA:EAPR:JSCOTT

PM:JBURGESSION

L:EA:SOLINAS

-----016568 220613Z /13/17

R 210139Z JUN 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

INFO JCS WASHDC 0434

SECDEF WASHDC 0539

CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII 0592

CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI

CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI

CINCPACREPHIL SUBIC BAY RP

13TH AF CLARK AB RP

S E C R E T STATE 157212

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (PARA 4 SUBPARA B LINE 1  
 OMITTED; PARA C CHANGE FIRST WORD OR VICE OF)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, RP, US, SN

SUBJECT: A-4 TRAINING IN THE PHILIPPINES

REFS: A. MANILA 8186, 180620Z MAY 78, B. SINGAPORE 2118,

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110910Z MAY 78, C. 76 STATE 99293, 240105Z APR 76,  
D. SINGAPORE 4673, 120825Z OCT 76

1. DEPARTMENT HAS GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO REASONS  
OUTLINED REF A FOR CONTINUING TO DELAY DECISIONS ON A-4  
TRAINING PROGRAM. WE HAVE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT REFS A AND B,  
THE EXTENDED HISTORY AND CABLE TRAFFIC ON THIS SUBJECT, THE

PRESENT STATE OF U.S.-RP BASE DISCUSSIONS AND THE 1947 MBA.  
WE ARE PREPARED TO APPROVE RSAF USE OF CLARK UNDER ARTICLE  
XXV OF THE MBA, IF SUITABLE IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE  
WORKED OUT.

2. WE CONTINUE TO BELIEVE THAT U.S. BASING ARRANGEMENTS AND SINGAPORE TRAINING ARRANGEMENTS WITH GOP MUST BE TREATED AS ENTIRELY SEPARATE SUBJECTS. OUR APPROACH IS SUMMARIZED IN PARA 2B OF REF C AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE WE SHARE EMBASSY MANILA'S CONCERN THAT STATUS OF FORCES ARRANGEMENTS MADE BETWEEN GOS AND GOP NOT, REPEAT NOT UNDERCUT OUR OWN SOFA AND FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS WITH GOP PARTICULARLY ON SUCH MATTERS AS CRIMINAL JURISDICTION. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT U.S. POSITION IS BEST PROTECTED BY DIVORCING THESE TWO FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT TYPES OF ARRANGEMENTS. WE SHOULD EMPHASIZE TO GOP THAT STATUS OF GOS FORCES IN PHILIPPINES IS A MATTER TO BE AGREED UPON BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS WITH REFERENCE TO THE PARTICULAR CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE HOS FORCES WHICH ARE QUITE UNLIKE THE LONG-TERM BASING ARRANGEMENTS FOR U.S FORCES. THERE IS AMPLE INTERNATIONAL PRECEDENT FOR CONSIDERING THE STATUS OF SHORT-TERM TRAINEES AS DISTINCT FROM THAT ESTABLISHED IN BASES AGREEMENT. FOR EXAMPLE, TOTAL LACK OF STATUS ACCORDED BY GOJAUGEREAN TRAINEES AT U.S. BASES IN JAPAN HAS NOT UNDERCUT LONG-STANDING U.S.-SOFA

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ARRANGEMENTS WITH GOJ. END QUOTE. BELIEVE HOWEVER, THAT PHRASE "SHORT TERM TRAINEES" IN PENULTIMATE SENTENCE OF QUOTE SHOULD BE REPLACED BY "THIRD COUNTRY MILITARY PERSONNEL VISITING FOR SHORT-TERM PURPOSES SUCH AS TRAINING" TO AVOID IMPLICATION MBA DOES NOT APPLY TO U.S. PERSONNEL IN PHILIPPINES FOR SHORT TERM PURPOSES.

3. WE SEE THREE OBJECTIVES WHICH MUST BE ACHIEVED DURING DEVELOPMENT OF THE RSAF A-4 OPERATION AT CLARK:

A. ASSURING ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN GOS AND GOP DO NOT HAMPER U.S. ACTIVITIES AS GUARANTEED MOST RECENTLY IN MARCOS/MONDALE STATEMENT, OR INFRINGE ON U.S. RIGHTS AT THE BASES;

B. PROTECTION OF U.S. RIGHTS TO PRIOR CONSENT FOR THIRD COUNTRY GRANTS UNDER ARTICLE XXV OF THE MBA (PHILIPPINE NOTE TO GOS, REF D INCORRECT STATES U.S. HAS ALREADY GICEN CONSEN);

C. AVOIDING INS OF THE QUESTION INTO BILATERAL ISSUES BETWEEN U.S. AND RP.

4. ACCORDINGLY, WE BELIEVE THAT EMBASSIES SHOULD INFORM GOS AND GOP AS SOON AS POSS THAT UNDER ARTICLE XXV OF THE MBA THE U.S. REPRESENTATIVES ARE PREPARED TO UNDER-TAKE DISCUSSIONS ON IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS PRIOR TO GRANTING FORMAL CONSENT TO SUCH ARRANGEMENTS. BEFORE INFORMING GOS AND GOP, HOWEVER, WE REQUEST EMBASSIES' VIEWS ON FORUM FOR THEIR DISCUSSIONS. WE SEE THREE POSSIBILITIES:

A. BILATERAL TALKS BETWEEN U.S. AND RP IN MUTUAL DEFENSE BOARD. THIS HAS THE ADVANTAGE OF REINFORCING THE ROLE OF MDB AND OF AVOIDING GOS PARTICIPATION IN POSSIBLY AWKWARD DISCUSSION OF WHAT U.S. WILL PERMIT ON PHILIPPINE  
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SOIL. HOWEVER, EXCLUSION OF SINGAPORE FROM IMPLEMENTING DISCUSSIONS COULD INEVITABLY LEAD TO LATER COMPLICATIONS.

B. INFORMAL TALKS AMONG ALL THE PARTIES TO WORK OUT MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE UNDERSTANDING. THIS HAS THE ADVAN-TAGES OF ASSURING THAT GROUND RULES ARE KNOWN AND APPROVED BY ALL PARTIES BUT COULD INVOLVE SINGAPORE IN U.S.-RP BILATERAL ISSUES AND MIGHT RESULT IN LESS EXPLICIT UNDERSTANDINGS THAN UNDER MDB.

C. OR POSSIBILITY OF MDB FORMAL, PRECISE AGREEMENT FOLLOWING INFORMAL TALKS.

5. REQUEST EMBASSIES' VIEWS BY JUNE 27.  
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## Message Attributes

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